

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 53

Encouraging and expediting the integration of Romania at the earliest stage into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 20, 1997

Mr. SOLOMON submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on International Relations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Encouraging and expediting the integration of Romania at the earliest stage into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Whereas Romania has already undertaken tremendous steps toward further consolidating the basis for a democratic and free market society;

Whereas Romania has shown itself, through the normal transfer of power after the conclusion of the November 1996 elections, to be an increasingly mature and functioning democracy;

Whereas the Romanian Government has made excellent progress toward respecting human rights and civil liberties and has made great strides toward establishing the rule of law;

Whereas the new Romanian Government has demonstrated its firm commitment to push for substantial economic reforms, including further mass privatization, tax relief, increased protection of property rights and foreign investment, and trade liberalization;

Whereas the Romanian Government has exhibited good neighborliness in its foreign affairs by the very significant signing of the basic political bilateral Treaty with Hungary and by its efforts to conclude in the nearest future negotiations with Ukraine on a similar treaty;

Whereas Romania was the first emerging democracy in Central and Eastern Europe to join the Partnership for Peace, and by its active participation alongside North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces in Bosnia has clearly demonstrated its ability and willingness to operate with the NATO Alliance under its standards;

Whereas Romania's size, geo-strategic location, economic and military potential, and huge popular support for NATO integration render it of immense and key strategic importance to European stability;

Whereas NATO, a voluntary, defensive alliance, has been a force for stability, freedom, and peace in Europe since 1949;

Whereas, at the July NATO Summit in Madrid, the NATO alliance will extend invitations to start negotiations for accession with some Central European candidates that have participated in the intensified dialogue with NATO; and

Whereas Romania has voluntarily applied for NATO membership and determinedly striven to meet NATO eligibility requirements: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) Romania is to be commended for its
4 progress toward political and economic liberty and
5 meeting the guidelines for prospective North Atlan-
6 tic Treaty Organization (NATO) members set out in
7 chapter 5 of the September 1995 Study on NATO
8 Enlargement;

9 (2) Romania would make an outstanding con-
10 tribution toward furthering the goals of NATO upon
11 becoming a full member;

12 (3) extension of full NATO membership (with
13 that status being unvitiated by any potential NATO
14 agreement with any other entity) to Romania would
15 make an exceptional contribution toward stability,
16 freedom, and peace in Europe; and

17 (4) Romania should be invited to become a full
18 member of the NATO Alliance at the earliest stage.

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